



PADRE'S CORNER

January 1, 2017

As the new year emerges and the old year ends, each of us reflect on the past and the present as it leads to a future dictated by God. We make resolutions, such as losing weight or becoming more prayerful. We also remember where we were, as the one period of life flows into the next. A tradition for me in recent years has been to watch the "Twilight Zone" marathon, as the past fades into the present, pondering life lessons as proposed by the late Rod Serling (born December 25, 1924 in Syracuse and died during a coronary bypass procedure on June 28, 1975 in Rochester). I have a few favorite episodes, both about the yearning of human beings to find life meaning in the midst of obstacles that test the resolve meter. In one episode, a burned out executive goes back to his hometown, in the hope of recovering the innocence of his youth that eludes him in the midst of stressful corporate life. The twilight zone teaches him that no such escapes exist, as the old neighborhoods change as all other aspects of existence do. In another, a museum security guard cannot find a complementary soulmate, due to his own shyness and a dominating parent that does not want him to find that love interest. He escapes planet earth by entering the twilight zone of a museum diorama, where he becomes one with the toy figurines that cannot bring human pain to him.

I am spending the transition from December 31, 2016 into January 1, 2017 within the balmy and sunny confines of San Diego, California. The purpose for coming one week was to attend Mass at Mission San Diego (founded by Saint Junipero Serra in 1769), take a train into Mexico, tour Old Town which has buildings dating to the early settlement of Southern California, and to attend the final San Diego Chargers football game of the season (as the team makes a decision soon about possible relocating to Los Angeles two hours north).

I recall vividly, during my first year in the minor seminary from 1987 to 1988, transitioning the years at a Benedictine monastery called Mount Saviour in Pine City (nearly 500 miles from Yonkers). I was offering serious prayers to God over discerning my vocation to the priesthood. Should I leave my phone company career with the Bell System officially, or depart the seminary by returning to my comfortable corporate job still beckoning me backward?

We seek His plan through sacred persons, places and ideas. Ponder these gems. Dale Carnegie, the self-improvement author (1888-1955), reflected: "It isn't what you have, or who you are, or where you are, or what you are doing that makes you happy or unhappy. It is what you think about." Pope Francis on redeeming our sins through the mercy of God, opined: "I wish to restate as firmly as I can that abortion is a grave sin, since it puts an end to an innocent life. In the same way, however, I can and must state that there is no sin that God's mercy cannot reach and wipe away when it finds a repentant heart seeking to be reconciled with the Father. May every priest, therefore, be a guide, support and comfort to penitents on this journey of special reconciliation.

Novelist Marilynne Robinson, in the "Paris Review," commented: "We experience pain and difficulty as failure instead of saying, I will pass through this, everyone I have ever admired has passed through this, music has come out of this, literature has come out of it." President Franklin Roosevelt echoed to us futuristically on June 30, 1941 at his library dedication in Hyde Park, New York: "The dedication of a library is in itself an act of faith. A Nation must believe in the capacity of its own people to learn from the past that they can gain in judgment in creating their own future."

Author Alex Soojung-Kim Pang, in his book "Rest : Why You Get More Done When You Work Less", writes: "We shouldn't regard rest as a mere physical necessity to be satisfied grudgingly. When we stop and rest properly, we're not paying a tax on creativity. We're investing in it. " When we bridge earthly with spiritual wisdom we can join the two trains of thought into one cohesive pattern of vision, much like the old calendar year merging into the new.

Metaphorically, San Diego becomes one with Newburgh as we exchange well-wishes and prayers for each other in 2017. God bless us one and all. **Father Bill Damroth**

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. Jan. 2

7:00am Chris Townsend
Health & Blessings
By Zalanowski Family
Genowefa Pilch
By Family
Noon Bruno Schimkosky
By Family

Tues. Jan. 3

7:00am Vocations
Noon Jean Adams
By Ann Hardy

Wed. Jan. 4

7:00am Charlie Messina
Health & Blessings
Noon Anne Gross
Health & Blessings

Thur. Jan. 5

7:00am Emma Evans
By Colleen & Michael Corizzo
Joseph Zmudzinski
By Family
Noon Genowefa Pilch
By The George Family

Fri. Jan. 6

7:00am John Waren
By Zalanowski
Noon Ted & Darlene King
Blessings
By M. King

Sat. Jan. 7

Noon Our Military
Home & Overseas
4:30pm Gene & Ann Lawrence
By Friends
Mildred Crisci
By Desiree & Tom Abbruscato

Sun. Jan. 8

8:00am Robert Shaffer
By The Gould Family
11:00am Carmella Tallarico
By Joanne & John
Frank Schaffner
By Family



WEEKLY COLLECTON

December 24-25, 2016
1st Collection \$18,399.00
2nd Collection \$ 3,613.00
TOTAL \$22,012.00

*Our sincere thanks for your generosity
and support of our Parish.
God bless each and every one of you....always*

The 2nd collection this weekend is for
Catholic University & Communications

MASS ATTENDANCE

December 24-25 2016
4:30pm 900
7:00pm 112
Midnight 202
8:00am 140
9:30am 76
11:00am 247
Total 1,677

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy
is recited on Sundays
at 10:40am before the 11:00am MASS



Our **Holy Hour** with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday from 5:00pm to 6:00pm will be for the special intention of **God's Blessings on the New Year**

SPANISH MASS

Our next scheduled Spanish Mass will be celebrated next **Sunday January 8th at 2:00pm.**
All are welcome!



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Vincenza Secor, Aaron Stagliano, Kelly Stafford, Robyn McGraw, John Sabo, Andrew Costanzo, Marie Wijek, Rose, Stephen Sabo, Ashley Barco, Tom Scalzo, Nora Brickter, Gary Lake, Genevieve Pilch, Agnes Casey, Brianna Barker, Keith Webber, Jake Bryan DeStefano, Rose Marie Michalowski, Meryl Chatham, Vincenturia Cullen, Amy Meyer, Vinnie Yonnone, Grace Keller Peacock, Mary Corwin, Jean DeCicco, Don Hughes, David Jennings, Robert Johnson, Karen Wells, Marcia McKay, Victoria Palkovic, Elaine Pietrzak, Maureen Luzzi, Joyce Poponiak, Corrine Gammino, George Vecchio, Jr, Carol Brown, Teresa Centeno, Matthew Gallagher, Luzia Araujo, Celio Thomaz, Sherry Collins, Rosalie Nogay, Richard and Rina Bozzone, Antonio Troia, Cody Favoino Finkbeiner, Marie Louis, Sacha Samuel George, the Koch Family, Frank Pietrzak, John Marullo, Rose Jurik, Robert & Helen Osborn, Manuel DiNapoli, Jennie Serrano, Eddie Koza, Barbara Woloszyn, Gary McGraw, Rachael Neugebauer, Patricia Denniston, Arlene Dietrichsen, Maureen Kelly, Abigail Ryan, Debra Thurston, Toby Persico, Alexis Johnson, Barry Johnson, James R. Purpura, Bob Smith, Tom Kingery, Bud Smith, Amy Finnegan, Jane Pustola, Justin, Peter, Rita, Janice Ruggiero, Angela, Wayne, Abbie K., Dominick Denisi, Sebastian Denisi, Pam Denisi, Linda Hummel, Joseph Michalowski, Joann Quicksell, Frances Dolan, Daniel D'Elicio, Fr. Fred Kempferi, Carmen De Crosta, Parker, Jane Holloway, Dore Williams, Sheryl McGrath, Michelle Ryan, Rosalind Morrison, Donna Delconte, Joan Ponesse, Jim Taylor, Marilyn Lennox, Bruno Marchatta, Anne McClellan, Louis Arbia, Dottie Rodriguez, Michael Rosenberg, Maureen Sullivan, Frank D'amario



NEEDED

BROWN GROCERY BAGS WITH HANDLES

MARY'S HOPE an outreach program, run by Suzanna Campora, delivers bags of groceries to shut-ins twice a month.

They are in need of used **brown paper grocery bags with handles** (like Adams) for their deliveries. If you have any to donate please drop them off at them at the rectory or leave them at the back of the church. Please mark them for *Mary's Hope*.



Food Pantry Hours:
Friday 9:00am to 12noon
Saturday 9:00am to 12noon

In your goodness please bring **ONE POUND PACKAGES OF PASTA & SAUCE** to Church next weekend to be distributed to the less fortunate thru our Food Pantry.

Thank You

THANK YOU to all who participated in the ***Giving Tree*** project. All of the Food Pantry children received a gift from you for Christmas. Thank you again for being so generous to our less fortunate families. They are blessed by your donations.

HELP WANTED

The Sisters of the Presentation seek to fill a part-time **Housekeeping/Nurse's Aide** position for a convent for retired Religious Sisters in New Windsor, NY beginning in January 2017. The qualified candidate will work Sunday-Thursday, approximately 30 hours per week. Benefits included. If interested, please send a resume to Sr. Margaret Murphy via fax at 845-564-0597 or via e-mail to mmpbvm@gmail.com

ARCHDIOCESAN REQUIRED ANNOUNCEMENT ON CHILD PROTECTION

Anyone who needs to report an alleged incident of sexual abuse of a minor by priest, deacon, religious or lay person serving in the Archdiocese of New York is asked to contact Sr. Eileen Clifford, O.P., at 212-371-1000 x2949 or Deacon George J. Coppola at 917-861-1762. Both may also be reached via e-mail at victimassistance@archny.org. Information can also be found on the Archdiocesan website, www.archny.org. In keeping with the Archdiocesan policy regarding sexual abuse of minors, this information is provided to ensure that our children remain safe and secure.



CONGRATULATIONS TO.....

Mr. Jose Perez, the December winner of **\$205.50** in our Monthly 50/50 Club Raffle. Be sure your envelope is in for our next drawing in January.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Our St. Francis monthly senior meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 4th at 12:30pm** (after the 12noon Mass) in O'Connor Hall. Please bring your bag lunch. We will supply the coffee, tea and water. For questions or more info please call the rectory at 561-1317.

ST FRANCIS UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 4th - Senior Mtg. 12:30pm in O'Connor Hall
Jan 8th - Spanish Mass 2:00pm



CASINO BUS TRIP

On Tuesday, January 17th, VFW Post 1161 and CWV Post 386 will co-host a bus trip to Pocono Downs Casino in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Everyone is welcome. Departure is 8:30am from the Wal-Mart parking lot. The bus will depart for home at 4:30pm. Tickets are \$35.00 per person. Each person will receive a \$30.00 package consisting of \$25.00 free slot play and a \$5.00 food coupon, plus a chance to win this trip free. For reservations please contact John Raszcewski at 845-562-3705.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord of the harvest, your Word finds a home in our hearts, calls us into community and invites us to generous service of the human family. Bless with courage and spirit your priestly people, called to full participation in the One Body of Christ. May many choose to respond in public service to your call offered in Jesus' name.

Amen

"He who, when tempted, makes the Sign of the Cross with devotion, makes hell tremble and heaven rejoice."

St. John Vianney

PILGRIMAGE

Plans have been finalized for a pilgrimage hosted by Fr. Bill in December 2017. **Alpine Christmas Adventure** for 11 days, December 4th thru 14th visiting Frankfurt, Freiburg, Lucerne, Innsbruck, Salzburg, Oberammergau, Neuschwanstein, Munich, Rothenberg and Heidelberg. To register or for additional information please call the rectory at 561-1317.

Adult Catechisis

Any adult who has not received their sacraments and would like to do so, please see Sr. Laura or leave your name at the Rectory, 561-1317.

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into Hell Satan and the other evil spirits who prowl about the world for the ruin of souls. Amen



BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR PARISH TODAY

___YES! I want to register as a member of St. Francis of Assisi Parish and receive offertory envelopes.

Name: _____

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Fill out and drop in the Offertory Collection or mail to St. Francis of Assisi Church, 145 Benkard Avenue, Newburgh, NY 12550.....and **Welcome!**


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